## Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20510

March 1, 2023

Mr. Alan Shaw President and CEO Norfolk Southern Corporation 650 W. Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30308

Dear Mr. Shaw:

We write today requesting immediate action to ensure that all residents and businesses of Darlington Township in zip codes 16115, 16120, and 16141 receive equal access to the financial and other resources provided by Norfolk Southern in the aftermath of the derailment on February 3.

While we appreciate that Norfolk Southern has established a Family Assistance Center in East Palestine to answer questions and assist residents, we are frustrated by repeated reports from Pennsylvania residents that they are being turned away and denied needed assistance, including reimbursements for receipts and inconvenience checks. We appreciate the assistance you have offered to Darlington Township families on a case-by-case basis, but Pennsylvania families should not face additional hardship to get the assistance they are owed.

Norfolk Southern's policy of only reimbursing the residents of the roughly 130+ dwellings that were officially evacuated ignores the reality of the situation for residents across Beaver and Lawrence Counties. Families across these counties, not just those officially evacuated, saw a toxic plume and acted to protect their families at a time of considerably uncertainty. Similarly, local officials took action to keep them and their families safe. Their decisions were justified, as is their ongoing concern for their health and wellbeing. They should not be denied assistance because Norfolk Southern, a multi-billion-dollar corporation, insists on adhering to rigid, unrealistic boundaries that do not reflect the lived reality of the derailment or the impact of the derailment.

We know that, at the request of East Palestine officials, Norfolk Southern granted eligibility for these reimbursements and payments at the Family Assistance Center to all residents of Ohio zip code 44413. Despite repeated requests from Beaver County officials to do the same for zip codes 16115, 16120, and 16141 in Pennsylvania, Norfolk Southern has refused to act. Norfolk Southern has a legal and moral responsibility to all communities impacted by the derailment, regardless of state lines.

We look forward to seeing all residents of these three Pennsylvania zip codes given eligibility as soon as possible and expect your response within 48 hours. Please share that response with our offices via Senator Casey's staff.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Casey, Jr.

**United States Senator** 

Chris Deluzio

Member of Congress

John Fetterman

United States Senator